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(12)

TO: F-ARM-NPRM-COMMENTS at ARM

CC: gcrg@boris.infomagic.com at SMTPGATE

Subject: Grand Canyon Proposed Overflight Rule

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am deeply disappointed in your proposed rule.

1. "Flight-free zone" should mean just that, to the extent it was intended, which is to ensure aircraft noise doesn't intrude on the natural quiet of the area. An 8000' ceiling doesn't do that.

2. There needs to be a limit on the number of aircraft permitted in the Canyon. Every other permitted use is regulated. I'm a great example - this year I have a private permit to float the river, for which I have been on a waiting list since 1989 - a total of 8 years.

Commercial interests should not be permitted to dictate the use of National Parks.

Regards,

Dean Campbell

6227 26th Avenue Northeast

Seattle, WA 98115

From: Grand Canyon River Guides

To: ;@boris.infomagic.com

Date: Monday, January 20, 1997 12:50PM

g@rof.net (Rhadi Young - Air)

From: Jeri Ledbetter <gcrg@InfoMagic.com>

Subject: Grand Canyon Air tour Update

Update on Grand Canyon Overflight rule and new proposed rule announced 12/31/96.

Secretary of Interior Bruce Babbitt has announced a final rule regarding aircraft overflights in Grand Canyon. Unfortunately, it is significantly weaker than we had hoped.

Rather than limiting the number of operations as proposed in the draft rule, the final rule calls for caps on the loudest of aircraft. However, tour operators can continue to introduce an unlimited number of less noisy aircraft, and new businesses using this technology will be allowed to enter the market. Since even the quietest aircraft makes a lot of noise, any gains made by the transition to these aircraft will be lost by allowing still more of them into the airspace. Congress passed the 1987 Overflights Act recognizing that there were already too many flights; now there are twice as many. While virtually every other form of Grand Canyon visitation is limited, the FAA seems incapable of grasping the concept that such restrictions are necessary to protect the resource and the visitor experience.

The rule sets daily curfews on some tours, but the majority of aircraft overflights - those originating from Las Vegas - are exempt.